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The Murder of Kelly Thomas – Killed by Fullerton Cops

August 4, 2011



Kelly Thomas suffered from mental illness and homelessness until July 5, 2011, when police assaulted and TASERed him for "resisting arrest".



Shocking: This picture shows the extent of the injuries Thomas received after being beaten up by six police officers in Fullerton, California.

Eye witnesses at the scene claim the six officers tasered him five times and beat him beyond recognition, which the disturbing photo of him in hospital shows.

Mark Turgeon, who was there, said: 'They kept beating him and tasing him. I could hear zapping, and he wasn't even moving. 'He had one arm in front of him like this, he wasn't resisting. And they kept telling him, "He's resisting, quit resisting", and he wasn't resisting.'



Ron Thomas, father of Kelly Thomas, is a former deputy sheriff.

Speaking about his son's death, Thomas's dad, Ron Thomas, a former sheriff's deputy, said: 'His death was gang-involved, the way I see it. A gang of rogue officers who brutally beat my son to death.'

He said he now feels ashamed for having ever been a law enforcement officer. He has been in the area his son was attacked handing out flyers and asking people for help.

He said: 'The only thing we have left of our son is the blood in the gutter, that's all we have left.'

Source: "Caught on tape: Police beat and taser 'gentle' mentally-ill homeless man to death", 29 July 2011, Daily Mail (UK)

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2019225/Kelly-Thomas-Police-beat-taser-gentle-mentally-ill-homeless-man-death.html#ixzz1U3kCseeH>

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Cook County Cops Busted

April 18, 2010

Here is a vivid example of the brutality of the rogue cops of Cook County. This incident happened in Streamwood, a neighboring village of Hoffman Estates, my hometown. In this case the video clearly shows the cop using excessive force on a person. As typical of such cases, the victim of the beating was charged with resisting arrest, although he clearly did not resist in any way.

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid1659835055?bctid=78332147001>

See [video here](#).



Ronald Bell of Streamwood, Illinois (left, note he is handcuffed to the bed!) suffered a concussion and multiple bruises and scrapes at the hands of Streamwood Police officer James Mandarino (right) in a beating outside his home on March 28. In an unusual (and long overdue) move against the notorious police brutality of Cook County, Mandarino has been charged with two felonies. (Richard A. Chapman/Sun-Times)

In my case there were at least six similar videos taken by the 7 police cars on the scene showing the illegal undercover police assault against me (by Michael Barber, Timothy Stoy, and Darin Felgenhauer). Evidence of serious police misconduct, all video records of the three-man tactical squad assault at my home in August 2006 were destroyed in violation of Hoffman Estates police regulations. I found evidence that the undercover police attack against me had been planned in advance (for exercising my Constitutional rights) – a federal offense. (See section entitled ["The Bollyn Trial"](#) for more information.)

See: <http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2010/04/streamwood-cop-charged-with-beating-motorist.html>

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The TASER: A Police Device for Torture and Death

September 4, 2006

Say 'Hello' to 50,000 Volts

by Christopher Bollyn

The growing use by local police departments of the supposedly "non-lethal" TASER electro-shock weapon has caused the deaths of nearly 200 citizens in the United States and Canada.

There are reportedly nearly 200 citizens of the United States and Canada who have been killed by the electro-shock police weapon known as the TASER, according to the Auckland, New Zealand-based organization Campaign Against the TASER. From Woonsocket, Rhode Island, to Wisconsin, Colorado, Arizona and California, there are numerous current news reports about the death of a local individual caused by excessive force used by the police involving the TASER weapon.



Photo: The X26 TASER, the police torture/compliance tool that was used on Bollyn in the "drive stun" mode, which is when the square end of the device is held directly against the body. The "drive stun" cannot be applied from a distance or on a moving subject. The "drive stun" can only be used on an individual who is already restrained and held down. This is, by definition, an application of torture. It should be noted that the "drive stun" is used on a daily basis by police across America.

"PRIMARILY FOR TORTURE"

In 1997, Robin Cook, then Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom, said the British government considered all such electro-shock weapons, including the TASER stun gun, commonly used by police in the United States, to be equipment "designed primarily for torture." Cook said the British government would "press for a global ban."

"We are committed to preventing British companies from manufacturing, selling or procuring equipment designed primarily for torture and to press for a global ban", Cook said in July 1997. TASER guns, and similar electric-shock batons and shields were listed by Cook as being the weapons that he would ban from Britain.

TASER is an acronym for "Thomas A. Swift's Electric Rifle," Thomas Swift being a science-fiction character from literature for boys. The actual TASER weapon was designed in 1969 by Arizona inventor Jack Cover and is produced today in a variety of models by TASER International, Inc. of [Scottsdale, Arizona](#). Some 7,000 police departments in the United States and Canada currently use TASER guns. No spokesman from TASER International was available to comment for this article.

The TASER gun can be used in two ways. It can either be fired from a short distance at an individual or it can be used as a stun gun that is placed directly on the individual before releasing its charge of 50,000 volts – and higher.

The capacity to inflict repeated and extended shocks at the push of a trigger makes the TASER open to abuse in both dart and stun gun mode, critics say.

In some cases, individuals have been shot with TASER darts, then threatened or stunned with repeated jolts during transportation or custody.

Researchers with the Non-Lethal Weapons Research Project at the University of Bradford (UK), asked, "What is it like to be incapacitated by a TASER weapon?"

"When fired the TASER propels two barbed darts with trailing wires that attach to the skin or clothing. Upon impact a 50,000-volt electric shock is discharged into the victim for a period of five seconds. Whilst the barbs remain attached this discharge can be repeated multiple times by pulling the trigger again (and again)", researchers Nick Lewer and Neil Davison wrote in their report, "Electrical stun weapons: alternative to lethal force or a compliance tool?"



X26c TASER Stun gun

EXTREME PAIN

"The immediate effects are debilitating. The current causes involuntary muscle contraction and extreme pain. The victim completely loses control over their body and falls to the floor until the current stops. The whole experience is both painful and degrading", the Bradford study said.

Amnesty International (AI), the leading anti-torture watchdog organization, has long called on "U.S. state, federal and local authorities to suspend all transfers and use of TASERS and other electro-shock weapons pending a rigorous, independent inquiry into their use and effects."

AI considers the use of TASERS to constitute "cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment – and torture."

AI has reported that TASER devices are frequently used to torture and interrogate people such as political prisoners and that TASERS are used by police in the U.S. "particularly for torture to 'gain compliance.'"

Law enforcement agencies in the United States, however, have not heeded AI's call to suspend use of TASERS. Today, some 7,000 law enforcement agencies, out of a total of 18,000, use TASERS as part of their arsenal.

AI recently reiterated its concerns about the use of the TASER stun gun on individuals who have already been handcuffed or placed in mechanical restraints. "The use of the TASER in conjunction with restraints has been a common factor in many of the deaths", AI reported on 28 March 2006:

"AI considers that inflicting excruciating pain on a suspect who is restrained, and not able to pose a serious threat to their own life or that of police officers or members of the public, constitutes an excessive use of force, sometimes amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment."

A 2004 study by The Denver Post found that in one county, one third of the 112 people shot with a TASER had been handcuffed at the time.

AI has repeatedly protested about subjecting individuals to TASER shocks while in restraints. This is, however, exactly what happened to me, in front of my wife and 8-year old daughter, during a brutal attack at my home near Chicago last week by three still un-identified armed men apparently affiliated with the Hoffman Estates Police Department.

I was tortured with the TASER stun gun while I was in handcuffs and pinned down by two of the men, one of whom knelt upon my head.

The police department subsequently fabricated an utterly false report of the incident, which they passed on to the corporate-controlled media. The Chicago Tribune based its brief article on my arrest completely on the fabrications produced by police.

"Police used a TASER to stun a Hoffman Estates man during a struggle after he called authorities to report a suspicious vehicle that turned out to be an unmarked police car", the Tribune article began.

The last sentence repeated the police lie: "The officers stopped Bollyn from entering his house and stunned him with Taser after failing to subdue him."

Clearly, this is an essential lie that the police need the mainstream media to support.

As my wife and daughter can attest, there was no struggle or resistance from my side as I was attacked by the three thugs from behind. The square end of the TASER weapon, and its charge of 50,000 volts, was applied to my lower back as I was handcuffed and pinned down by two men on my front lawn.

As I later wrote the Tribune, "The only possible explanation for the gratuitous use of the TASER weapon in this case is that it was applied to torture me and inflict long-term damage."

A medical expert has informed AFP that TASER energy can cause heart attacks, blood clots, and long-term damage to vital organs.

In such instances, AI reported in 2004, the force used by the police officers "violated international standards prohibiting cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, as well as international guidelines on police use of force."

Yet in most cases documented by AI, the police officers were exonerated and not found to have violated any official policies. The Hoffman Estates Police Department appears to be preparing a similar whitewash and has begun an internal investigation to be headed by a Lt. Ted Bos, an officer who has a well-known record of committing similar acts of police brutality, on and off the job.

In 2004, for example, the department paid \$100,000 to Sergio Pantoja, a 2001 victim of police brutality at the hands of Bos and two other officers. Now Lt. Bos is being called upon to investigate the Bollyn incident.

At the village board meeting on August 21, I told the mayor, the board, the chief of police and their lawyers, that a corrupt "in-house" investigation headed by an officer with a record of police abuse was simply unacceptable.

Please see also:

Campaign Against the TASER

<http://www.campaignagainstthetaser.com>

Florida Student TASERed for Asking Kerry a Question

18 September 2007

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See also:

- [Death by TASER – The Tragic Death of Roger Holyfield](#)

- TASER Causes Severe Injuries to Police

<http://www.bollyn.com/taser-kills/>